

The Co-Occurrence of Parental Alienation Claims and Intimate Partner Violence in Family Court: Theory and Practice Webinar

DATE: Tuesday, March 15, 2022

TIME: 2:00-3:30 pm CST

LOCATION: Zoom | REGISTER HERE

The webinar will outline the controversies surrounding parenting disputes in family court and the inappropriate use of alienation. The multiple factors that may lie behind a child refusing or resisting parenting will be discussed as well as the dilemmas for the family justice system to find differentiated parenting plans in these cases. The webinar will also address the many reforms that the Court of Queen’s Bench has made in the past three years to address systemic court delays that had created a barrier to justice for Manitoba families.



Featuring Dr. Peter Jaffe

Dr. Peter Jaffe is a psychologist, Professor Emeritus, and one of the founding Directors of the Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women & Children in the Faculty of Education at Western University (London Ontario, Canada). He has co-authored eleven books, 40 chapters and over 80 articles related to domestic violence, the impact of domestic violence on children, homicide prevention and the role of the criminal and family justice systems. For the past 30 years, he has presented workshops across the United States and Canada, as well as Australia, New Zealand, Costa Rica and Europe to various groups including judges, lawyers, health, mental health professionals and educators. Since 1999, he has been on faculty for the National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges in the US for judicial education programs entitled

“Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases”. He was a founding member of Ontario’s Chief Coroner’s Domestic Violence Death Review Committee. He has also been instrumental in developing violence prevention programs for schools. Together with David Wolfe, Claire Crooks and Ray Hughes, he helped in the development of “The Fourth R: Skills for Youth Relationships”, a school-based curriculum targeting multiple forms of violence, including bullying, dating violence and peer violence.



Featuring Robynne Kazina

Robynne Kazina practices exclusively in the area of family law as a partner at Taylor McCaffrey LLP in Winnipeg, Manitoba. She graduated from the University of Toronto law school in 2005. She also has Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Manitoba and a Masters of Social Work from the University of Toronto. Robynne teaches Advanced Family Law at the Faculty of Law University of Manitoba. She is past Chair of the Manitoba Bar Association Family Law Section and Women Lawyers’ Forum. Robynne is dedicated to raising awareness of the intersection between family violence and family law. She was involved in providing feedback and testing the Federal Government’s HELP tool for family law practitioners, and educating the Bar about family violence and the amendments to the Divorce Act.



Featuring Justice Lore Mirwaldt

On October 20, 2016, Justice Mirwaldt was appointed to the Manitoba Court of Queen’s Bench (Family Division). Prior to her judicial appointment, she practised with her husband in the firm Mirwaldt & Gray that had offices at The Pas and Winnipeg. Her main areas of practice were family law, child protection, civil litigation, First Nations governance and employment law and human resources. In 2009, Justice Mirwaldt became an adjudicator under the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, which appointment she held until her appointment to the Court. Since her judicial appointment, Justice Mirwaldt has served on various court committees. She is a member of the Oversight Committee on the Child Protection Case Flow Model, whose work has resulted in reducing delays in

hearing child protection cases. Justice Mirwaldt is also a member of the Family Division Case Management Model committee that introduced, and now maintains, a streamlined case flow for contested family matters. Justice Mirwaldt is also a member of the court’s Trust, Reconciliation and Access to Justice Committee, which has the responsibility of advising and guiding the court on its journey of reconciliation with Indigenous Manitobans.